

Senate Engrossed

FILED

**KEN BENNETT
SECRETARY OF STATE**

State of Arizona
Senate
Forty-ninth Legislature
Second Regular Session
2010

SENATE CONCURRENT MEMORIAL 1002

A CONCURRENT MEMORIAL

URGING CONGRESS TO ENSURE THAT ANY FEDERAL HEALTH CARE REFORM LEGISLATION HAS
A MINIMAL FISCAL IMPACT ON THE STATES.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 To the Congress of the United States:

2 Your memorialist respectfully represents:

3 Whereas, the State of Arizona is currently facing an unprecedented
4 budget crisis with a deficit of \$1.5 billion for state fiscal year 2009-2010
5 and \$3.4 billion in state fiscal year 2010-2011; and

6 Whereas, the Arizona Legislature has already made and must continue to
7 make dramatic cuts to vital education, public safety, health and welfare
8 programs to address the state's budget crisis; and

9 Whereas, Arizona is one of six states that has voluntarily expanded its
10 Medicaid coverage up to one hundred per cent of the federal poverty limit,
11 resulting in a dramatic increase over the past decade in both population and
12 costs; and

13 Whereas, the United States Congress is currently pursuing a health care
14 reform proposal that includes significant mandated Medicaid expansion; and

15 Whereas, both the United States House of Representatives and the United
16 States Senate proposals include a mandated maintenance of effort stipulation
17 that requires states to maintain their current Medicaid programs at existing
18 levels; and

19 Whereas, the current spending level of the Arizona Health Care Cost
20 Containment System program is unsustainable given the state's dire fiscal
21 condition, and the proposed maintenance of effort requirement leaves Arizona
22 without the flexibility to control Medicaid spending; and

23 Whereas, the United States Senate proposal is currently projected to
24 cost Arizona an additional \$4 billion through 2020; and

25 Whereas, the United States Senate bill inexplicably contains
26 inequitable policy treatment towards expansion states like Arizona, resulting
27 in a projected penalty of over \$15 billion during a seven-year period for
28 Arizona alone; and

29 Whereas, the United States Senate bill contains a number of other
30 policies that favor particular states like Nebraska solely for political
31 gain; and

32 Whereas, Arizona taxpayers will not only be forced to support the
33 Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System but will also see tax increases
34 and Medicare service reductions to pay for health care expansion costs in
35 other states and special deals; and

36 Whereas, the continued administration of the Medicaid program in
37 Arizona as mandated in federal health care reform proposals will deplete
38 Arizona's General Fund at the expense of critical public education, health
39 and safety programs.

40 Wherefore your memorialist, the Senate of the State of Arizona, the House of
41 Representatives concurring, prays:

42 1. That the United States Congress ensure that any federal health care
43 legislation contain an equitable distribution of Medicaid funding through a
44 formula that considers caseload growth, state revenues available to maintain

1 required services and state budget shortfalls in meeting the federal
2 requirement.

3 2. That the United States Congress consider flexibility for states to
4 adjust services if federal assistance is not sufficient to meet the federal
5 requirement.

6 3. That the Secretary of State of the State of Arizona transmit copies
7 of this Memorial to the President of the United States, the Speaker of the
8 United States House of Representatives, the President of the United States
9 Senate and each Member of Congress from the State of Arizona.

PASSED BY THE HOUSE APRIL 19, 2010.

PASSED BY THE SENATE FEBRUARY 15, 2010.

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE APRIL 20, 2010.